

Bradwell-on-Sea, 10.8 (SD). HANTS. N. Oakley, 24.8, worn female, eggs infertile (AHD). HANTS S. Hayling Island, 25.8, two (JMW). HERTS. Potters Bar, 28.9 (R-LP). KENT W. Dartford, 4.8., male (BKW). MIDDLESEX Hampstead 7.9 (RAS). SURREY Wisley, 2.9 (AJH); Leigh, 8.8, very worn, 25.8, fresh 7.10 (RF). SUSSEX W. West Dean, 25.7 (C. Robinson per CRP); Rogate, 30.7, 1.9, 16.10, f. *sanguinaria* (JACG); Walberton, 21.9, 28.9, two (J. Radford per CRP). SUSSEX E. Ringmer, 8.8 (A. Batten per CRP); Peacehaven, 6.9 (CRP). WARWICKS. Charlecote, 2.9 (DCGB); Pailton near Rugby, 7.9, 8.9, two (Dr. Greenwood per DCGB). WESTMORLAND/FURNESS South Walney, 6.9, three, 7.9, 8.9, 13.9 (T. Dean per DWK). YORKS v.c. 61 Muston, 7.9, on lighted window (PQW). CARMARTHEN Rhandirmwyn, 24.8 (per IW and AR). CO. CORK Fountainstown, 23.8, male, 12.9, 22.9 (AAM). CO. WICKLOW Bray Head, 25.8, brown lined (KGMB). GUERNSEY Le Chene, 23.8, 26.8, 8.9 (TNDP); Clare Mare, 2.9, 9.9 (P. Costen); St. John, 26.8; L'Ancrese, 26.8; Icart, 27.8 (R. Austen).

ORTHONAMA OBSTIPATA F. (9) CORNWALL E. Trebrow-bridge, 1.11 (AS). DEVON S. Yarner Wood, 28.7; Star Cross, 2.11 (per IW and AR). SUSSEX W. Walberton, 2.11, two, 9.11, 11.11 (J. Radford per CRP). SUSSEX E. Newhaven 21.4 (S. Curson per CRP). ESSEX S. Bradwell-on-Sea, 8.10 (SD).

SEMIOTHISA SIGNARIA Hb. KENT E. Orlestone Forest, 31.7 (JLF, *Ent. Rec.*, 96:215; idem, *Proc. Trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.*, 18:9).

(to be concluded)

## Notes and Observations

FERAL FOODPLANTS OF LITHOPHANE LEAUTIERI HESPERICA BOURSIN (BLAIR'S SHOULDER-KNOT). — Since October 1979 when the first specimen of *L. leautieri* appeared in the garden trap this species has steadily increased in numbers up to 1984 when over 40 specimens were recorded between 2nd October and 12th November with a maximum total for one night being 12 on 15th October.

In view of these numbers and as the only previously recorded foodplant in Britain, *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress), is absent from the immediate district it was logical to assume the species was breeding locally on other members of the Cypress family. This assumption was confirmed on 14th June 1985 by beating the well established (20-25ft high) Cypress trees in my own garden, made up of eight of the hybrid *Cupressocyparis leylandii* (Leyland Cypress) and seven *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* (Lawson's Cypress). A somewhat cursory beat of the lower (up to six feet) branches yielded a few larvae from each of the *leylandii*, but none from the

*lawsoniana*. This was followed by a thorough beating of one of the largest *leylandii* which resulted in a further 17 larvae ranging from third instar (8mm) to half grown (17mm). It was not practical even with ladders to reach the uppermost five feet or so. A second attempt at the *lawsoniana* eventually yielded a handful of larvae from the higher branches, but it was very evident that as far as my garden was concerned *leylandii* was the much preferred host plant. It might be of interest to add here that no such preference is shown by *Eupithecia intricata arceuthata* Freyer, a common species in the garden, the larvae of which occur on both species of Cypress in equal numbers.

In the 1950s when *L. leautieri* was first reared from British stock it was inferred by H. B. D. Kettlewell (*Ent.* 90: 285) and G. M. Haggitt (*Proc. Trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.* 1: 73) that the male flowers of *macrocarpa* constituted an essential part of the young larva's diet. This is certainly not the case of larvae feeding on *leylandii* as the trees in my garden do not bear flowers, whereas the less preferred *lawsoniana* does so prolifically. I have also in past years successfully reared the species from the egg entirely on the foliage of *leylandii*. — BERNARD SKINNER, 5 Rawlins Close, South Croydon, Surrey.

JOHN ABBOT'S LONDON YEARS: SOME ADDENDA. — The following observations refer to my "John Abbot's London years," 96: 110-123, 165-176, 222-229, 273-285.

Page 172, fn. 32: Among the manuscripts of the entomologist William Jones of Chelsea (d. 1818) preserved in the Library, Hope Entomological Collections, Oxford, is a series of extracts copied from "Dru" Drury's journals for 1764-1766. I have not yet been able to examine the extracts, but revealing quotations from them which illustrate Drury's collecting activities in the field were included by E. B. Poulton *et. al.* in "English names regularly used for British Lepidoptera up to the end of the eighteenth century, with a biographical account of William Jones of Chelsea," *Trans. Soc. Br. Ent.* 1 (1934), 139-184.

Page 174, fn. 42: Since writing the footnote I have consulted E. B. Poulton, "The Society of Entomologists of London for the Study of Insects," *Proc. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* 8 (1933), 97-104, which contains much information about Drury's society of 1780-1782, again taken from William Jones' materials in the Hope Collections library. Jones was the group's secretary. His MSS. at Oxford are generally described by Gavin Bridson *et. al.*, *Natural history manuscript resources in the British Isles* (London, 1980), 334, entries 342.2 and 342.30.

Page 224: "subsequent authors piled Ossa upon Pelion." The admittedly obscure reference is to a once well-known school joke,